

FISCAL NOTE

HB 2353 - SB 2494

February 14, 2002

SUMMARY OF BILL:

1. Prohibits the Commissioner of Environment and Conservation from closing, reducing the hours of operation, or significantly limiting the operation of any park or natural area that was in operation on January 1, 2001, or that is created in the future, unless the general assembly by joint resolution approves of such proposed termination, transfer, lease, closing, reduction of hours of operation, or other significant operation of any park or natural area.
2. Requires the general assembly to consider the economic and non-economic impact of the park including:
 - The park's historical significance and value;
 - Whether circumstances giving rise to the park's creation have changed;
 - Tourism the park generates; and
 - Whether the park plays any role in preserving unique or significant aspects of the state's culture or heritage.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Other Fiscal Impact - To the extent that parks and natural areas previously closed were required to reopen, an additional appropriation or diversion of existing funds of approximately \$2,500,000 would be required.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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